

*Abstract of the Disclosure*

A technique for performing query evaluation on distributed directories utilizes the creation of a “topology cache” defining the hierarchical relationship between the various directory servers (i.e., identifying “subordinate” and “superior” knowledge references associated with each directory server in the system). The created topology cache is then stored at each directory server, and forwarded to a client upon submitting a query to the system. Using the topology cache information at the client, a distributed query evaluation plan can be developed for use with complex queries, such as hierarchical and aggregate queries.

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